



Date: July 14, 2010 Contact: Steven Hall (BLM) 303-239-3672 Jordan Montoya (DOI) 202-208-6416

Secretary Salazar, BLM Director Abbey and Administration Officials to Hold America's Great Outdoors Initiative Listening Sessions in Grand Junction & Denver, Colorado

COLORADO—Secretary Salazar, BLM Director Bob Abbey and other senior administration officials will participate in listening sessions on President Obama's *America's Great Outdoors Initiative* to hear from people in the region about solutions for building at 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and reconnecting Americans with the outdoors.

Secretary Salazar and BLM Director Abbey will be joined by USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources and the Environment Harris Sherman, USFS Chief Tom Tidwell and CEQ Associate Director for Policy Outreach Amy Salzman. The listening sessions will be offered in two locations: Grand Junction and Denver. Prior to the Denver session, there will be an America's Great Outdoors youth listening session to provide young people the opportunity to join the conversation and share their best ideas.

President Obama inaugurated the *America's Great Outdoors Initiative* at the White House Conference in April. The conference brought together leaders from communities across the country that are working to protect their outdoor spaces and focused on developing and supporting innovative ideas for improving conservation and recreation at the local level.

WHO: Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior

Bob Abbey, Director of Bureau of Land Management, DOI

Harris Sherman, Undersecretary for Natural Resources & Environment, USDA

Tom Tidwell, Chief US Forest Service

Amy Salzman, Associate Director for Policy Outreach, CEQ

WHAT: America's Great Outdoors Initiative Listening Session & Youth

Listening Session

WHEN: Friday, July 16th, 2010

Grand Junction, CO

9:00 a.m. AGO Listening Session

11:15 a.m. Media avail (BLM Director Abbey and USFS Chief Tidwell)

Denver, CO

11:00 a.m. Youth Listening Session

1:00 p.m. Media Avail (Secretary Salazar and administration officials)

2:00 p.m. AGO Listening Session

WHERE: Grand Junction, CO

Media Avail & AGO Listening Session

Location: Two Rivers Convention Center

159 Main Street

Grand Junction, CO 81501 * Gunnison River Room

Denver, CO

Media avail

Location: Confluence Park on the South Platte River

2200 15th Street

Denver, CO 80202

Youth Listening Session & AGO Listening Session

Location: Denver Marriott West

1717 Denver West Blvd Golden, CO 80401

More Info: You can find more information on the America's Great Outdoors Initiative at: www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/.

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